

VZCZCXRO3302
PP RUEHFK
DE RUEHKO #4439 2200151
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 080151Z AUG 06
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5117
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 7564
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 0877
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 3650
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1176
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 9789
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 1497
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 004439

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STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION Q LEBANON CRISIS - TOKYO

LEAD STORIES: Most Tuesday morning papers front-paged Monday's informal UNSC meeting, during which Lebanese and Arab League representatives reportedly demanded that a resolution jointly drafted by the US and France be modified to include a phrase calling for Israel's immediate withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

11. "Lebanese Ceasefire: UNSC Resolution Must Be One on Which All Can Agree" The liberal Tokyo Shimbun editorialized (8/8): "The resolution that the US and France submitted to the UNSC for a ceasefire in Lebanon was too pro-Israel, drawing immediate opposition from Lebanon and other countries. To bring about a lasting end to hostilities, the UNSC must speed up work to revise the resolution so that all parties can agree. The Israel Defense Force (IDF) is continuing to escalate its operations to wipe out Hezbollah, with air strikes taking place all over Lebanon and IDF ground forces steadily extending northward the Lebanese territory they occupy.... Hezbollah is launching some 200 rockets daily in retaliation. There have been more than 900 dead in Lebanon and about 70 on the Israeli side.

12. "What can be done to bring an end to this excessive and pointless conflict? What is needed now is an immediate ceasefire. We need a UNSC resolution that calls on Israel to withdraw from Lebanon, a resolution that while admonishing both sides for their recklessness reflects international opinion and takes Israel to task for its excessive attacks.... As long as the Bush administration insists on protecting Israel in the hope of receiving Jewish financial assistance and votes in the upcoming mid-term elections, the Lebanese and Palestinian crises will only worsen."

